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Programme questions and other matters: proposed programme of work for the biennium 2004-2005

Draft programme of work of the Division for Social Policy and Development for the biennium 2004-2005**

Note by the Secretariat

1. The draft programme of work in the field of social policy and development for the biennium 2004-2005, which is contained in the annex, is submitted for the consideration of the Commission for Social Development in compliance with the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation. In section I, paragraph 7, of its resolution 52/220, the General Assembly stressed the role of the relevant intergovernmental bodies in the consideration of the narrative of the proposed programme budget, as well as the necessity for a timely presentation of their recommendations on the budget.

2. The draft programme of work has been formulated within the framework of subprogramme 3 (Social policy and development) of programme 7 (Economic and social affairs) of the revised medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005. It will be implemented by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Division for Social Policy and Development.

3. Efforts are currently under way to prepare baseline and target data which will be provided — if possible — in connection with the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005.

4. The Commission is invited to comment and make recommendations on the draft programme of work. These comments and recommendations will be taken into account, as appropriate, by the Secretary-General in finalizing his proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005, which will be reviewed by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its forty-third session, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions at its 2003 spring session and the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.

* E/CN.5/2003/1.

** The current document is being submitted after the established deadline for submission of documents for processing. This is due to extensive consultations between the substantive department and the Programme Planning and Budget Division in the finalization of the budget document.

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Annex

Draft programme of work of the Division for Social Policy and Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, for the biennium 2004-2005

1. The draft programme of work has been formulated within the framework of subprogramme 3 of programme 7 of the revised medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, and takes into account global mandates contained in the Millennium Declaration and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", in which the Assembly reaffirmed the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action and made a strong commitment to accelerating social development. Other relevant mandates include the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing; the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities; and the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond.

2. The subprogramme will continue to provide effective coordinated support, through policy analysis, monitoring of trends and emerging issues and advisory services in implementing further actions and initiatives identified within its mandates.

3. The draft programme of work also includes outputs related to the servicing of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities, as decided by the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session.

4. Following the reorganization of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, resources for technical cooperation activities will be divided between subprogramme 3 (Social policy and development) and subprogramme 8 (Public administration, finance and development). As reflected in the output narrative for technical cooperation described below, subprogramme 3 will continue to provide support, on request, to Governments to implement international instruments related to social policy and development, financed both by the General Trust Funds in the social development field and by resources to be included in section 23, Regular programme of technical cooperation, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005.

Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement

Objective: To strengthen international cooperation for social development, with particular attention to the three core issues of poverty eradication, employment generation and social integration. A further objective is to promote internationally agreed-upon programmes for older persons, including the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, and programmes for people with disabilities and youth, and to advance work on intergenerational issues. In addition, the subprogramme will increase awareness and enhance the integration and coordination of action on indigenous issues in the United Nations system.

Expected accomplishment	*Indicator(s) of achievement*
(a) More effective implementation of the commitments and policies adopted in the Millennium Declaration, the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development, the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development and further initiatives on social development adopted at the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, and facilitation of their implementation.	(a) (i) Satisfaction expressed by Member States with regard to the contributions of the subprogramme on priority themes related to public sector effectiveness and the review of the further implementation of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly; (ii) Closer collaboration between United Nations agencies, funds and programmes on issues of social development.
(b) Improved ability of Member States, after receiving effective assistance, to pursue the goal of eradicating poverty through decisive national action and international cooperation.	(b) Satisfaction expressed by Member States with regard to the contribution of the subprogramme towards improving their ability to reassess macroeconomic policies with the aim of giving employment generation and reduction of the poverty level a central place in the goals of macroeconomic policy, including progress in achieving quantitative and qualitative targets adopted by the intergovernmental process, in particular the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of its review.
(c) Increased awareness among national Governments and the international community of their capacity to realize, through their strengthened capacity, the International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities and the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond, and enhanced capacity of Member States to advance work on social integration, including issues related to older persons, persons with disabilities, youth and families as well as conflict resolution.	(c) (i) Satisfaction expressed by Member States with the support provided in the follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing; (ii) Increased interest of Governments in the work of the United Nations concerning disability, resulting in their initiatives to further effect implementation of the international norms and standards for the equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities; (iii) Feedback on the contribution of the subprogramme towards increasing the awareness of Member

Expected accomplishment	*Indicator(s) of achievement*
	States of the need for better integration of youth concerns into national development policies; (iv) Feedback from policy makers, experts and practitioners on the relevance of the identified core principles and practices for conflict transformation among persons in situations of conflict.
(d) Increased capacity of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues to carry out its programme of work.	(d) Satisfaction expressed by members of the Permanent Forum that the support provided to them by the subprogramme increased their ability to carry out their programme of work.
(e) Better understanding and awareness by Governments, civil society and the private sector with regard to emerging issues in the field of social development, including gender issues, particularly through improved and timely access by Governments, non-governmental organizations, academia and individuals to United Nations research and analysis in the field of social development	(e) (i) Increased interest of non-governmental organizations, including women's organizations, in the work of the Commission for Social Development, international or regional meetings and conferences related to social development, measured, inter alia, by the feedback received from the delegates attending the meetings of these bodies on how much their awareness and understanding have increased, and by the number of accreditations granted to non-governmental organizations for relevant meetings; (ii) Feedback from users on the extent to which the research findings in the field of social development, as contained in the *Report on the World Social Situation* prepared by the Division, contributed to development.

External factors

The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments on the assumption that Governments and other stakeholders will collaborate with the subprogramme in undertaking the proposed programme activities.

Outputs

During the biennium 2004-2005, the following final outputs will be delivered:

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (RB):

(i) General Assembly:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings (number of meetings in parentheses). Substantive servicing, including meetings of the Second and Third Committees (20);

b. Parliamentary documentation (number of reports in parentheses). Reports on: follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing (1); implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly (2); implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons (1); implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006) (2); new global human order (1); report on the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family (2004) (1); review and appraisal of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond on the occasion of its tenth anniversary (1); the Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities (third and fourth sessions) (2); the world social situation (1);

(ii) Economic and Social Council:

Substantive servicing of meetings (number of meetings in parentheses). Substantive servicing of the Economic and Social Council (8);

(iii) Commission for Social Development:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings (number of meetings in parentheses). Meetings of the Commission (32); inter-sessional meetings of the Bureau (8);

b. Parliamentary documentation (number of reports in parentheses). Reports on: implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002 (1); implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons (interim report of the Secretary-General) (1); priority theme for 2004: improving public sector effectiveness (1); priority theme for 2005: review of further implementation of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly (1); final report of the Special Rapporteur on Disability of the Commission for Social Development, including the supplement to the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities (1); the views of Member States on the proposals of the Special Rapporteur on Disability of the Commission for Social Development, including the supplement to the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities contained in the report

of the Special Rapporteur on his third mandate (1); year of microcredit 2005 (1);

(iv) Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings (number of meetings in parentheses). Meetings of the Forum (26);

b. Parliamentary documentation (number of reports in parentheses). Reports on: seven mandated priority areas of the Forum (analytical reports) (7); provisional agenda and annotations of the sessions of the Forum; substantive report(s) of the Forum in six substantive key areas: health, indigenous rights as human rights, economic and social development, education and culture, environment, children and youth (6); report on the follow-up to the first session of the Forum (1); report of the Forum on its second session (1);

(v) Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings (number of meetings in parentheses). Meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee (40);

b. Parliamentary documentation. Reports on: a comprehensive and integral international convention on protection and promotion of the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities (third and fourth sessions);

(vi) Ad hoc expert groups (number of groups in parentheses) on: assessment of the impact of the outcome of major international conferences on the social development policies of Governments (1); employment creation: policies, strategies and implementation (1); follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing to develop guidelines for national policy action to implement the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (1); preparations for the tenth anniversary of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond (1); promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities in development in the context of the Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (1); the priority theme of the Commission for Social Development in 2005: "review of further implementation of the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly" (1); the priority theme of the Commission for Social Development in 2006: "review of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty" (1); social integration among persons in situations of conflict: capacity- and institution-building (1); two panel discussions in relation to the Commission for Social Development for the biennium 2004-2005 (2);

(b) Other substantive activities (RB/XB):

(i) Recurrent publications (number of issues in parentheses): *Report on the World Social Situation* (1);

(ii) Non-recurrent publications (number of publications in parentheses): *Global Situation of Families* (1); *Guidelines for Developing and Implementing National Policy on Ageing* (1); *Overview of Achievements Made in the Ten Priority Areas of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond in Preparation for Activities to Commemorate its Tenth Anniversary in 2005* (1); *Policy Framework for Social Integration and Conflict Transformation at the Local, National and International Levels* (1);

(iii) Special events: provision of substantive support for the observance of the following international days: families (15 May); cooperatives (first Saturday in July); youth (12 August); older persons (1 October); eradication of poverty (17 October); disabled persons (3 December);

(iv) Technical material: Periodic updates of the Division's web site; technical monograph on newly emerging issues and their application in policy analysis from a disability perspective;

(c) Technical cooperation (RB/XB):

(i) Upon the request of the Governments of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, provision of advisory services, organization of training workshops and seminars and elaboration of field projects aimed at capacity-building;

(ii) To support activities financed from resources of trust funds: in the follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly; reinforcing social integration of persons with disabilities; in the follow-up to the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002; on initiatives related to the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond; and on the promotion of the role of families.